



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

French movements in an energetic and watchful manner even when the British were "guilty of the criminal negligence which all pacifistic governments display in the face of a war crisis". When the French controlled the seas off Acadia in 1744 "the ministry gave no sign of understanding what was required and, besides being incapable by temperament of aggressive action, was busy with computations of patronage and war cost rather than of troops and ships." In this crisis governor and colony took control of the situation. No few words can do the picture justice. Shirley was one of the best American governors. He grew with his duties despite lack of co-operation from the crown and other colonies, and deserved success. Professor Wood makes this clear, and points out the reasons why full success was not obtained.

An adequate bibliography gives the sources upon which the author has leaned. Most of these were known but all have never been used in one account of the period. As the history continues through the difficult and contentious years to follow, the author will enhance the value of his work by emphasizing its biographical side without neglecting the story of American colonial development as it was influenced by its imperial setting. Interest will increase as Professor Wood traces in his second volume the relative merits of Britain, Shirley, and the colonies throughout the struggle against France in the later years of rivalry in America to 1756, and the closing years of Shirley's life.

C. H. LINCOLN.

A Cycle of Adams Letters, 1861-1865. Edited by WORTHINGTON CHAUNCEY FORD. In two volumes. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1920. Pp. xiv, 298; 281. \$10.00.)

THE chief interest in these letters, and it is very great, is the same for the historian as for the general reader, that of personality. The three writers are all reasonably human, they are all strongly Adamses, and they are sharply distinguished from each other. The father has quite passed the stage where he has to make up his mind on any subject, he is obviously the least able except in the high quality of judgment, and he is dull. A certain blind spot in his mental outlook is indicated by his conjunction of statements: "I think I see in my father the only picture of a full grown statesman that the history of the United States has yet produced" (I. 67), and, that his father had failed "so much as a party-man" (I. 69). One might, in the same way, say of himself that he had all the high qualifications of a diplomat, except that of getting on well with men. Henry is distinctly boyish, pessimistic, exuberant, rash, and repentant. During these years, however, his pose of indifference became hardened, and he found the "experimento-philosophico-historico-progressiveness" (II. 90) which became the basis of his life-philosophy. By far the best letters, however, are those of Charles Francis Junior, who indeed wrote, on entering the

army, "My future must be business and literature, and I do not see why the army should not educate me for both, for its routine is that of business and it will go hard if my pen is idle while history is to be written or events are to be described" (I. 73). The letters, however, give no impression that he is writing for practice. His descriptions of army life are in many ways the best we have, while his discussions of the cotton situation, the race problem, national finance, and similar questions, reveal a wealth of information and a convincing maturity of judgment distinctly superior to what his grandfather John Quincy Adams was doing at the same age.

The special interest of the letters for the historian is not in their revelation of new fact, but in the unique opportunity of seeing the progress of the war through the eyes of three such interesting witnesses, all near, but not quite of, the centre of affairs. All were Seward men, all were anti-British, anti-Southern, and anti-slavery, but curiously enough none were enthusiastic Union men, they had a feeling that they ought to like the West but would not quite stand it, they were ardent supporters of democracy, like all Adamses, their judgments were singularly erroneous with regard to the next moment, but subtle and sound in their long-distance prophecies, they were a little slow in the uptake, slow in entering the war, slow in recognizing Lincoln, but pleasingly candid in admitting error. The reviewer frankly does not believe Charles Francis Junior when he writes, "These men don't care for me personally", for he has always found something lovable in their intense enthusiasms and animosities; no wonder his men thought him "cold, reserved, and formal"—one does not fondle a bull-dog; but any reader will credit him when he says "they do believe in me, they have faith in my power of accomplishing results and in my integrity" (II. 119).

One of the most interesting series of letters is that dealing with the *Trent* affair, when the intensity of feeling on the two sides of the Atlantic was so great as momentarily to carry in different directions the members of the sundered family. Of interest also are the glimpses of negotiations for peace in the spring of 1864, through the two Charles Francis. The embassy seems entirely in the dark during the autumn of 1862, when English policy so nearly turned to recognition, but was remarkably alert in the summer of 1863. Many references are made to John Quincy Adams's suggestion of emancipation by the president's war power, but the proclamation of September 22 is not mentioned, and that of January 1, 1863, is taken rather lightly—unless indeed the letter of August 24, 1863 (II. 76-77) is incorrectly dated—though the effect on English opinion of the change in the basis of the war from union to abolition is recognized.

Perhaps the best illustration of the hard, practical, and often disagreeable wisdom which has always characterized the Adamses, is to be found in their realization of the race problem as distinct from that of slavery. Nothing is more amazing in the recorded thought of the period than the absence of such discussion; in these letters, chiefly in

those of Charles Francis the son, it is one of the leading themes. A letter of April 6, 1862 (I. 124-133), is a careful survey of the problem, and thoughtful references are scattered throughout. He did not love or believe in the negro, he was not an abolitionist such as his father and grandfather; but he hated slavery because of its effect on the white man, and he felt that "The blacks must be cared for or they will perish" (I. 132). He came to have a great belief in the army as a training school for freedom, and when he took command of a negro regiment he thought he saw "immeasurable capacity for improvement" (II. 195).

With regard to the editing, the first point to notice is that these two volumes are "selected from what would fill many volumes" (I. vii). The selection is obviously honest, and, except that one would like the letter of the father in which he speaks of the possibility of demanding his passports (I. 9), it is effective, with plenty of interchange of argument and reply, but very little repetition. The text exhibits the excellent staff work which one expects from the environment of the Massachusetts Historical Society. The reviewer, however, still adheres to the position that he took in a series of reviews of the *Writings of John Quincy Adams* in the *History Teacher's Magazine*, that Mr. Ford under-edits. There are indeed two schools of editing, and these volumes fall in the class where abundant annotation is least necessary. Certain duties, however, the editor owes to the writers and to the users of the letters. The pen slips in the best of hands, and on page 190, line 8 from the bottom, Charles Francis Adams is recorded as writing "imaginable", when he undoubtedly intended to write "unimaginable", and there is no bracket of warning to the reader. On page 194, line 2 from bottom, Charles Francis Junior's omission of a "not" is left unmentioned. Suspicion, once aroused, finds in less certain cases doubt instead of conviction. It is not sufficient to present a perfect text; a clear text should be the editor's contribution. The standard of perfection, moreover, is unattainable. A serious error is the dating and placing of the letter on pages 73-75, as of November 29, 1861, whereas the correct date is probably September 29. It refers to the removal of Frémont as improbable, although it took place on November 6; it refers to a "Fast-day the other day", which was observed on September 26; and there is a long reply to the letter, dated October 15 (pp. 56-60), and a rejoinder to the reply, dated November 5 (pp. 63-64).

CARL RUSSELL FISH.

The Industrial State, 1870-1893. By ERNEST L. BOGART and CHARLES M. THOMPSON. [Centennial History of Illinois, vol. IV.] (Springfield: Illinois Centennial Commission.¹ 1920. Pp. vii, 553. \$2.00.)

IN this production Illinois receives another volume of great value

¹ A second edition of the whole *Centennial History of Illinois*, to be issued by Messrs. A. C. McClurg and Company, of Chicago, is in the press. Ed.